
Biblical Focus

We consider it vitally important to integrate Biblical teaching throughout the curriculum every day. In addition, students have these special opportunities to learn and grow in their faith:

Devotions

Our students:

- Begin each day with a Bible story or Scripture-based lesson about the character of God, the work of His Son Jesus Christ, and His purposes for our lives;
- Enjoy daily prayer for personal needs and concerns.

Chapels

Our students:

- Join with K-6 classes for a weekly chapel time for worship, learning, and prayer;
- Are challenged to depend upon the grace of God by faith, and to measure all claims to truth by His inerrant word as they live out their faith in Jesus Christ.

Bible Classes

Our students:

- Study the Divided Kingdom of Israel through Malachi and how these books point towards Christ focusing on the prophets.
- Learn the major and minor prophets.
- Study the fall of Jerusalem, the Exile, and the return from Exile.
- Integrate Bible studies with reading lessons, history, grammar, and art.

Language Arts

Reading and Spelling

Our students:

- Practice reading orally for precision, fluency, and comprehension using; *Prince Caspian; Voyage of the Dawn Treader; The Children's Homer; D'Aulaires Greek Myths; Detectives in Togas; The Bronze Bow;*
- Review the 70 phonograms and 28 spelling rules that occur in English;

Composition

Our students:

- Learn to write well using the classical method of imitating quality writing;
- Learn to outline and write and narratives as well as descriptive paragraphs with correct spelling and punctuation.

Grammar

Our students:

- Practice identifying and labeling the following parts of speech: subject, verb, adjective, adverb, preposition, object of the preposition, direct objects, and indirect objects, predicate nouns, and predicate adjectives;
- Learn the irregular verbs, helping verbs and linking verbs.
- Learn and use punctuation and capitalization rules.

History

The Ancients

Our students study:

- The Biblical account of creation from the Garden; Fall of Man; early civilization
- The early Mesopotamian empires of Sumer, Assyria, and Babylon;
- The conquest of northern Israel and the fall of Judah;
- The Old, Middle, and New Kingdoms of Egypt;
- The Medo-Persian Empire;
- The Phoenicians;
- The Minoans and Mycenaeans;
- Ancient India and China;
- Ancient Greek culture and history, including: the Trojan War, Greek alphabet, architecture, food, mythology, Olympic Games, the Persian Wars, and the Peloponnesian Wars;
- Alexander the Great and the Macedonians
- The Roman Empire including: Romulus and Remus, the Etruscans, government, mythology, architecture, roads and aqueducts, gladiators, the Punic Wars, Julius Caesar, Augustus Caesar, Christian persecution, the destruction of Jerusalem, Constantine, the division of the Empire, barbarian invasions, and the fall of the Western Empire.

Science

Our students use an investigation-based curriculum to study in depth the following units:

- **Weather:** The water cycle, climate, weathering, atmosphere
- **The Solar System:** The earth, moon, planets, stars, constellations, sun, space travel;
- **Geology:** Layers of the earth, volcanoes, earthquakes, geographic features, rocks and minerals, biomes, fossils

Classes include experiments, outdoor observations and journal recordings of investigations.

Math

We use the Singapore (Standards Ed.) curriculum supplemented by math fact drill.

Our students study:

- Identify place value, compare and use expanded form for numbers to 100,000;
- Add, subtract, multiply and divide within 10,000.
- Prime numbers and divisibility rules;
- Mental math strategies;
- Multiply and divide fractions;
- Convert fractions to decimals; add, subtract, multiply and divide decimals degrees;
- Solve problems with perimeter, area and volume;
- Identify and construct angles; solve for unknowns in geometric problems;
- Use the bar model to solve multi-step word problems.

Enrichment

Poetry and Recitations

Our students memorize and recite a variety of poems and other materials to enhance their studies and make them fun; selections may include the following:

- Ephesians 4
- "The Donkey," Chesterton
- "The Jabberwocky," Carroll
- "Casey at the Bat," Thayer
- "The Spider and the Fly," Howitt
- "Try, Try Again," T.H. Palmer
- "God is Like This," Bennett
- "Which Loved Best?" Allison
- "The Road Not Taken," Frost
- Weekly Bible verses and longer selections
- Old and New Testament Books
- Apostles Creed
- Nicene Creed
- "The Twelve Labors of Hercules"
- "The Twelve Olympians"
- Become familiar with the works of master artists throughout history.

Art

Our students have an extended art class each week in which they:

- Learn to identify God's elements of design as seen in creation: value, color, space, shape, texture, and line;
- Use these elements to create their own works of art;
- Become familiar with the works of master artists throughout history.

P.E.

Our students participate in a physical education class twice a week. They develop coordination and game skills, and good sportsmanship.

Music

Students have music classes twice a week with a music specialist in which they:

- Learn music using the Kodaly method of vocal training;
- Learn to match pitch, sing the most common harmonic intervals, analyze rhythms, learn the dotted quarter, half and eighth notes.
- Learn major and minor scales.
- Learn classic hymns of the faith.
- Recognize compositions from different periods of history.
- Learn about the lives of famous composers.

Field Trips/Events

Events vary year to year and may include the following:

- Smithsonian Natural History Museum
- Luray Caverns
- Plays at George Mason University
- Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Museum
- Egyptian Feast
- Greek Olympics
- Community service project

Performances

- Christmas Program
- Recitatio
- Recitations for parents
- Grandparents Day
- Oratio (Speech Meet)

- Ephesians Chapel

Latin

Our students:

- Learn the first, second and third person pronouns;
- Learn the major prepositions
- Learn the third declension and I-stem nouns.
- Learn about 300 vocabulary words;
- Translate short stories from Roman and Biblical history.